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Message Text

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41
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 OMB-01 IO-14 SAJ-01

COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01 DRC-01 /120 W
---------- 061690
O 281740Z MAY 74
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0732
INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN IMMEDIATE
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
USNAVCOMMSTA LONDONDERRY IMMEDIATE
CINCUSNAVEUR IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL BELFAST
AMCONSUL LIVERPOOL
AMCONSUL EDINBURGH

UNCLAS LONDON 06616

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, UK(NI)
SUBJECT: UNIONISTS RESIGN FROM EXECUTIVE.

FOLLOWING TRANSMITTED MAY 28 BY CONSULATE GENERAL BELFAST:

1. UNIONIST MEMBERS OF NI EXECUTIVE AND ADMINISTRATION RESIGNED AT 1400 MAY 28 AFTER NI SECSTATE REES REJECTED THEIR RECOMMENDATION THAT THERE BE TALKS BETWEEN HMG AND ULSTER WORKERS COUNCIL. IN STATEMENT ANNOUNCING RESIGNATION, CHIEF EXECUTIVE FAULKNER SAID UNIONISTS FAVORED POWER-SHARING AS ONLY WAY NI COULD REMAIN WITHIN UK, AND EXECUTIVE HAD WORKED WELL TOGETHER. BUT PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR STRIKE SHOWED EXECUTIVE LACKED SUFFICIENT BACKING FOR GOVERNMENT BY CONSENT, AND PROVINCE WAS GOING TO RUIN. THEY HAD
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RESIGNED AND RECOMMENDED TO SECSTATE THAT HE APPOINT NEW

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EXECUTIVE WHICH WOULD HAVE BROAD SUPPORT.

2. SDLP LEADER AND DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE FITT DEPLORED UNIONISTS RESIGNATION. SDLP HAD OPPOSED UNIONIST PROPOSAL THAT HMG TALK TO UWC. SDLP MINISTERS HAVE NOT REPEAT NOT RESIGNED AND WILL AWAIT THEIR DISMISSAL BY SECSTATE.

3. THERE ARE CELEBRATIONS IN PROTESTANT AREAS OF NI, AND UWC HAS ORDERED HOLD IN RUNDOWN OF ELECTRICITY AT POWER STATION, PENDING STATEMENT FROM NI SECSTATE CLARIFYING SITUATION. STRIKE CONTINUES.

4. REES HAS NOT YET MADE PUBLIC STATEMENT. UNDER CONSTITUTION ACT HE HAS POWER TO DISMISS EXECUTIVE AND ADMINISTRATION MEMBERS. HE CAN APPOINT NEW EXECUTIVE MEMBERS FROM AMONG ASSEMBLYMEN SO AS TO ASSURE EXECUTIVE IS WIDELY ACCEPTABLE TO ASSEMBLY AND ELECTORATE; OR IF THIS IS NOT POSSIBLE, FOR UP TO SIX MONTHS FROM AMONG OTHER PERSONS, EVEN NON-ASSEMBLYMEN. BY ORDER IN COUNCIL QUEEN CAN DISSOLVE ASSEMBLY AND CALL NEW ELECTIONS, OR PROROGUE ASSEMBLY FOR UP TO FOUR MONTHS.

ANNENBERG

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NNN

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